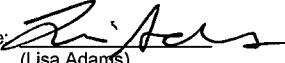


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: 12/13/07

Signature:   
(Lisa Adams)

Docket No.: 101896-283 (DEP5154USCIP)  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Sean P. Selover et al.

Application No.: 10/711,704

Confirmation No.: 5703

Filed: September 30, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR MINIMALLY  
INVASIVE SPINAL FIXATION ELEMENT  
PLACEMENT

Examiner: J. L. Swiger

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit the following remarks in response to the final Office Action dated October 22, 2007.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the **Pending Claims** is attached hereto. No amendments are made.